

EVR-Wood Treating/Evangeline Refining Company Superfund Site

EPA ID #: LAN000605517

Louisiana Site ID #: 1241

SSID #: 06NY

Congressional District: 7th Mary Landrieu

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Current Status

The EPA has developed a conceptual site model and a sampling plan concerning investigation of the site. Planning activities associated with implementation of the sampling plan have been completed. Sampling activities were initiated on January 12, 2015 and completed by the end of March 2015. Approximately 875 surface and subsurface soils samples were collected from approximately 142 locations and 10 background locations. These samples were analyzed for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's), Semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOC's), Metals, Dioxins/Furans, Hexavalent Chrome, Aroclor's/Pesticides, Tetraethyl Lead, Asbestos, and soil physical properties. Twelve ground water monitoring wells were installed and were also sampled. EPA is planning a third phase of remedial investigation (RI) activities which will investigate waste areas, surface water, sediment, and private water wells (approximately 175 samples). Ground water information will also be collected to classify the ground water that will factor into remedy decisions and push technology will be utilized to do additional subsurface contamination investigations.

Background

The facility started creosote operations in the late 1940s. Creosoting operations ceased around 1980. The facility was closed in 1985. The operation was involved in the preservation of timber products, principally fence posts and lumber, through pressure processes. The former processing area contained several tanks with hazard communication signs identifying contents as Wolmanac Concentrate 50%. Wolmanac is a trademark preservative which consists of arsenic acid, chromic acid, and copper oxide (CCA). Pentachlorophenol was also used in the dry treating process.

Mr. McBurney also originally owned the Evangeline Refinery Co., which overlaps the EVR-Wood property. The Evangeline Refinery Co. operated as an oil refinery from 1938 to 1981. The refinery produced naphtha, kerosene, diesel, and No. 5 fuel oil from sweet condensate. When the refinery was sold, Mr. McBurney retained control of the wood treating plant. The refinery was sold with the understanding that the treatment plant could send waste water to the refinery on an as-needed basis. In conversations with industry people, it was noted that Evangeline Refinery received wood treating waste water into their lagoons from EVR-Wood Treating Co. "via a pipe across the fence". No distinct boundaries between the properties were set during operation years. The releases from the two companies have been identified as a single site because the releases are comingled.

EPA and Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) conducted investigations in 1984, 1989, and 1994. In October, 1999, the EPA collected soil and wetland sediment samples from the site. Chemical analyses of the soil samples collected at the former facility revealed elevated concentrations of metals, including arsenic, chromium, and copper, PAHs, including acenaphthene, anthracene, benzo (a) anthracene, benzo (a) pyrene, benzo (b) fluoranthene, chrysene, fluorene, fluoranthene, 2-methylnaphthalene, phenanthrene, and pyrene, and PCP. Chemical analyses of sediment samples collected from the wetlands west of the facility revealed elevated concentrations of these same analytes.

From 2001 to 2011, LDEQ performed periodic inspections to document conditions at the site and attempted to work with the property owner to address further action. Samples collected in September 2011 on-site and within the wetlands area confirmed the presence of these contaminants on-site and in adjacent wetlands

Site Description

Location: The EVR-Wood Treating/Evangeline Refining Company (EVR) site is located off Highway 97, 1 mile north of Interstate Highway 10, near Jennings, in Acadia Parish, Louisiana. The EVR site boundaries are not defined since the full extent and nature of contamination has not been delineated.

Setting: The EVR-Wood Treating Company, Inc./Evangeline Refinery is an inactive and abandoned creosote and wolmanizing preserving facility and a former oil refinery located near Jennings, in Acadia Parish, Louisiana. The property is divided into nine parcels according to tax records, five on the north side and four on the south side. All four south parcels are listed under Watson & Miller, Evangeline Property Development Corporation, which is the estate of Hilton Watson. On the north side, three parcels are listed under Watson & Miller, which encompass most of the wood-treating plant area. The remaining two parcels are owned by Simar Land Co. which is owned by Edwin Simar. The facility was formerly owned in part by Mr. Burt McBurney, a local resident, until 2000. Open fields connected to dense forest form the unfenced eastern and northern boundaries of the site. Wetlands contiguous with Bayou Nezpique form the eastern boundary.

Wastes and Volume

Principal Contaminants:

- PAH's
- Benzo(a) Pyrene
- Pentachlorophenol
- Arsenic
- Chromium
- Copper

Volume:

- There are six backfilled and unlined surface impoundments, numerous tanks in disrepair, an underground storage tank with PCP, abandoned CCA containers throughout the property and contaminated soils throughout the property. The exact volume of waste is unknown.

Key Documents

Removal Assessment	SDMS DOC ID: 916328
Expanded Site Inspection	SDMS DOC ID: 918552
2012 Site Reassessment	SDMS DOC ID: 655291
HRS Documentation Record	SDMS DOC ID: 653684
Final NPL Notice	SDMS DOC ID: 9382255
Conceptual Site Model	SDMS DOC ID: 712447
Sampling and Analysis Plan	SDMS DOC ID: 712448

Contacts

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Evr-Wood/Evangeline Refinery
Acadia Parish, Louisiana
Figure 1- Facility Locations

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